

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2008/052460

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. A61B17/28 A61B5/00 A61B18/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 609 430 A (SHERWOOD SERV AG [CH]) 28 December 2005 (2005-12-28) column 5, paragraph 17 - column 8, paragraph 30 column 13, paragraph 49 - column 15, paragraph 54 figure 1	1-15
X	US 2004/015163 A1 (BUYSE STEVEN P [US] ET AL) 22 January 2004 (2004-01-22) page 2, paragraph 20 - page 4, paragraph 37	1-15
A	WO 01/01847 A (YOON INBAE [US]) 11 January 2001 (2001-01-11) page 15, line 12 - page 18, line 18 figures 18,19	8
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *A* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 April 2008

Date of mailing of the international search report

24/04/2008

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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PCT/US2008/052460

(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>EP 1 278 007 A (LUMITEX INC [US]) 22 January 2003 (2003-01-22) column 6, paragraph 21 - column 9, paragraph 36 column 14 - column 15, paragraph 56 figure 12</p>	4-7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2008/052460

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 16-21
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependant claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2008/052460

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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EP 1278007	A	22-01-2003	CA 2392985 A1 JP 3670255 B2 JP 2003162904 A	18-01-2003 13-07-2005 06-06-2003